

Zapotén area. Without more active protection, the trees to which *megaplaga* is specifically adapted seem likely to disappear, as they largely have across the border. So probably would vanish a unique avian relict.

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New and noteworthy bird records from Belize including the first record of Chestnut-collared Swift *Cypseloides rutilus*

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Over thirty years have passed since Russell (1964) summarized what was then known about the status and distribution of birds in the Central American country of Belize. Among the more recent publications that have added to our understanding of avian distributions in that area are those of Howell *et al.* (1992), Barlow *et al.* (1969, 1970, 1972), Mills & Rogers (1988), and Miller & Miller (1992).

Since 1992, we have spent a combined total of 45 weeks in Belize. The following notes are all based on sight records made during the period January 1992 to April 1996. Included are the first record of Chestnut-collared Swift *Cypseloides rutilus* for Belize as well as notes on seven other species of poorly known or marginal occurrence in that country. It is noteworthy that while most of our time was spent in northern Belize, four of the eight observations detailed below resulted from less than four weeks spent in the poorly known southern half of the country. Further investigations in southern Belize will doubtless bring to light additional unusual records and range extensions (S. N. G. Howell pers. comm.).

CINNAMON TEAL *Anas cyanoptera*

Although described by Wood *et al.* (1986) as a very rare transient, Belize was not included in the range of this species by Howell & Webb (1995). An adult male Cinnamon Teal was observed feeding and roosting in flooded rice fields in the company of some 400 Blue-winged Teal *A. discors* and eight American Wigeon *A. americana*, approximately 3 km west of San Felipe, Orange Walk District, on 2 March 1996. This bird was identified by its overall bright cinnamon coloration and red eye.

BICOLORED HAWK *Accipiter bicolor*

Russell (1964) listed three records of this species from Belize. Wood *et al.* (1986) described it as a very rare permanent resident in Belize. On 9 April 1996, an adult Bicolored Hawk was observed carrying nesting material into a dense vine tangle along a logging road at Gran del Oro, Cayo District. As far as we know, this observation represents the first evidence of nesting by this little known species in Belize.

CHESTNUT-COLLARED SWIFT *Cypseloides rutilus*

At least four adult Chestnut-collared Swifts were present in a concentration of approximately 40 *Chaetura* swifts (probably *Chaetura vauxi*) at The Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary, Stan Creek